



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY MANEUVER SUPPORT CENTER AND FORT LEONARD WOOD
320 MANSCHEN LOOP STE 316
FORT LEONARD WOOD, MISSOURI 65473-8929

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

23 OCT 2005

ATZT-S

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Commanding General's Thanksgiving Holiday Safety Message

1. The Thanksgiving holiday is one that Americans hold as one of our most important. It is traditionally a time for family and friends to gather and give thanks for the blessings we have received during the past year. It also provides an opportunity for us to appreciate our freedom and prosperity and to renew our faith, upon which this holiday is based. It is a time to gather around the table for a large family meal and laugh together.
2. Since many of us will travel during this holiday weekend, the biggest risk will come from motor vehicle accidents. These long weekends are too often marred by accidents. To avoid collisions, injuries and fatalities, drivers of POVs are encouraged to obey posted speed limits, adjust speed for road conditions, not drink and drive, avoid driving when drowsy, and make sure all occupants in the vehicle are buckled up for every ride. So plan carefully, allow yourself time, get plenty of sleep and never drive while impaired. Also ensure your vehicle received a safety inspection prior to a long trip to avoid accidents caused by defects, as well as unexpected stops and expenses.
3. Winter hazards will soon set in. This means cold air, winds and wet/icy driving surfaces. However, this is also a time for fun events like hunting, snow skiing, hiking, and snowboarding just to name a few. Make sure you understand the dangers associated with the fun. If you are hunting, the greatest threats come from cold weather, tree stand falls, and from being accidentally targeted by another hunter. Be careful and make sure you know how to keep yourself warm and protected.
4. We are all accountable for the safety of our personnel and I ask that you renew your commitment to keeping one another safe. Leaders, your first responsibility is to aggressively implement winter safety in your units and organizations.
5. Best of all, cherish your time with friends and family, relax, and enjoy the time off work. I look forward to seeing each of you return to work safely after the holiday!

Happy Thanksgiving!

Randal R. Castro
RANDAL R. CASTRO
Major General, USA
Commanding

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All Brigades, Battalions, Companies,
Detachments, Tenant Units, Directorates,
and Personal Staff Offices